My question is whether the Ministry will introduce Sanskrit in the Jawaharlal Nehru University. The Minister says that they are going to do it.

वहां अरबी है, फारसी है, जर्मनी है, दुनियां की सब लेंगुवेज हैं और संस्कृत नहीं है।

SHRI MADHAVRAO SCINDIA: The question is regarding Kendriya Vidyalayas and Sanskrit is taught in the kendriya Vidyalays have noted the centiments of the Members of Parliament and i will certainly try and take steps which would be in general consonance with the sentiments that emerge from this House from time to time. He have noted the suggestions. If they want details about other organisation, I am afraid, a separate notice will have to be given. But, fundamentally, we do understand the high importance of Sanskrit in our national system. We would do our best to find many ways and many avenues for adopting it and promoting it. A certain piece of information that the hon. Member has given is not factually correct.

Atrocities committed on SC/STs oustes from Rihand Super Thermal Power Plant

*444. SHR PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware of the atrocities committed on the oustees belonging to Scheduled Castes and weaker sections of the society, in Rihand Super Thermal Power Plant under NTPC;

(b) whether Government are aware that on 10th January, 1995 bulldozers and armed constables forced the villagers of Mitihini Village in Sonbhadra District of Uttar Pradesh for dispossession of their land;

(c) whether Government propose to investigation the matter; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESHRI): (a) to (d) A Statement is laid on the Table of the House. (a) and (b) Accordingly to information received from the Ministry of Power and the State Government of Uttar Pradesh, no atrocity was committed on the displaced persons belonging to Scheduled Castes and other weaker sections of the society in Rihand Super Thermal Power Plant of National Thermal Power Corporation. It has been further reported that no villager of Mitihini village in Sonbhadra District in Uttar Pradesh was ejected with the help of bulldozers and armed police force from his land. On 10th January, 1995, however, as there was apprehension of breech of peace, armed police force had to be deployed on the request of NTPC Authorities to commence construction on the land acquired in 1988 and 1989 and transferred to NTPC on 13-7-1989 and 10-1-1991

(c) No, Sir.

(d) Does not arise in view of what is stated at (a) and (b).

SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Atrocities were committed on the backward people in a village in UP. Now the Government says that as per the report of the State Government, no atrocity was committed at any time. I had written three letters to hon. Shri S. B. Chavan, Shri Sitaram Kesri and Shri N.KP. Salve. They all promised me that an enquiry would be made. Now the Minister says even before the enquiry that no atrocity was committed. I do not know what the truth is, whether the atrocity was committed or not. But, Sir, the fact is that the NTPC needed 990 acres of land for the disposal of ash of the Rihand Super Thermal Power Project, for which an additional land of 650 acres was identified near Mitihini village. Mitihini village is a small village having 67 families and marginal farmers all of whom except one belong to the Scheduled Castes. These people are facing displacement for the second time. The first time was in 1960 as a consequence of the submergence caused by the Rihand Dam. The Rehabilitation Action Plan of the Mitihini village and the neighbouring Khairi village specifically states that no one will be displaced without being rehabilitated. As per this the allotment of agricultural lands should have been completed by December, 1994.

Now, my question is whether the Government has paid compensation by way of allotting agricultural land as per the commitment and whether all other requirements of the agreement have been complied with or not; if not, the reasons therefor.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WELFARE (SHRI K. V. THANKA BALU): Sir, according to the report received from the State Government no atrocity was committted against the Scheduled Castes, Scheduled Tribes or other weaker sections of that village. The hon. Member is right that our Government's policy is that before taking the land from the oustees, it has to provide an alternative land and house sites and other facilities by way of compensation as per the norms. In this particular case, with the consent of the farmers and the workmen living in that village, the NTPC took over the land on 13-7-89 and then on 10-1-95 and paid compensation to them. This is one aspect. The second aspect is that the NTPC has already provided house sites to those people. They are ready now. A separate township was carved out and roads, drinking water and all other facilities have been made available. The people are moving into this area. Sir, I would like to inform the hon. Member that there was no atrocity committed in that particular village on that particular day. While taking over the land and also while starting the work, the whole village was there; the State Government officials including the police officers were present there. But there was no atrocity committed against any individual on that day.

SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: Sir, so far as atroctty is concerned, I would like to give a specific example proving that an atrocity was committed. On January 10, 1995, one Mr. Bansilal, S/o Shri Manodhari, was thrown in front of the bulldozer and was neck-deep in earth when he tried to save the fields from being bulldozed. The villagers pulled him out. Shri G. B. Dewankar, the Deputy Manager (Civil) was present there. In his very presence, it was done. I would request the hon. Minister to either refute or accept this charged.

SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU: Sir, today morning also, I had a discussion with the NTPC officials. We have also got the report from the State Government. It is very clear that no such incident took place. On that day, namely, 10-1-95, the NTPC officials were about to start the work in that particular place. At that time, Mr. Bansilal was there. He went before the bulldozer. But the villagers asked him to come back. With the total consent of the villagers, land was given to them by way of compensation, as I mentioned earlier. Today I have given instructions to the officials to adopt the land-to-land policy as well. They agreed to fulfil. Whatever the norms of the Government are, those will be fully complied with by them. We will not allow any NTPC official or the State Government to take undue advantage or to displace the tribals or the workmen of any part of the country.

श्री संघ प्रिय गौतम : सभापति जी, यह रिहंद बांध सोनभद्र जिले में है। सोनभद्र जिला पहले मिर्जापुर जिले की तहसील थी। तमाम अनुसूचित जाति और जनजातियों का क्षेत्र है। लोक सभा की सीट और विधान सभी की सीट आरक्षित है। माननीय मंत्री महोदय ने केवल इतना कहा है कि विस्थापितों के लिए एक नया नगर बसाया गया है जिसमें रहने के मकान और पानी के सुविधा दी गई है। लेकिन जो जमीन ली गई है वह खेती की जमीन उनकी जीविका का साधन थी। 1988-89 मे आपने अधिगृहीत की और 1991 में आप कब्जा ले रहे हैं। इतने साल तक आप कहां सोते रहे? इनके लिए आपने खेती की जमीन क्यों नहीं आवंटित की? न तो आपने लिखित उत्तर में और न जुबानी उत्तर में है। वे मकान लेकर के क्या करेंगे? क्या आपने इनको नौकरियां दी हैं? क्या आपने इनको कोटा, लाईसेंस, परमिट या एजेंसी दी है? क्या आपने इनको खेती की जमीन दी है? पुनर्वास का अर्थ क्या है? पुनर्वास का अर्थ यह है कि जब आप किसी व्यक्ति को विस्थापित

करेंगे तो उसको रहने के साधन के अलावा रोजी के साधन जो उसके थे, या उनका विकल्प मुहैया कराएंगे ।

आप कृपया बताइए कि 1994 तक आपने जब इसका कब्जा लिया तो तब इनको जमीन क्यों नहीं दी और नहीं दी तो निकट भविष्य में कब तक खेती की जमीन या कोई साधन या कोई नौकरी इनको देने जा रहे हैं ?

SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU: Sir, it is true that there was some delay. Some of the oustees went to the Uttar Pradesh High Court as well as to the Supreme Court. The Supreme Court judgement has given clear directions to the NTPC. As I said, compensation was paid. A second house site was given. A township was created with drinking water and other facilities. The hon. Member is right that some of the oustees are demanding employmtnt. So far as employment is concerned, NTPC has employed 13 persons out of 165 families. Other avenues are also being explored. We have instructed the NTPC that in the matter of employment, preference should be given to the members of the ousted families. They are willing to comply with the directive. As far as land is concerned, due to court cases they were not able to go ahead. Now the Court has laid down very clear norms. We have instructed them to comply with the norms laid down by the Court without any delay, without any loss of time.

श्री जनार्दन यादव : सभापति महोदय, मेरी बात एक मिनट में सुनली जाए । माननीय सदस्य ने स्पेसिफिक चार्ज हाऊस में लगाए हैं । मैं मंत्री जी से आग्रह करना चाहता हूं कि सरकारी रिपोर्ट का विश्वास मत कीजिए । हाऊस के एक माननीय सदस्य ने स्पेसिफिक चार्ज लगाए हैं कि हरिजन के ऊपर अत्याचार हुए हैं और आपने स्वीकार किया है कि बुलडोजर के सामने गया है । इसलिए आप इसकी जांच करा दीजिए और सही रिपोर्ट हाऊस को दीजिए । वह गरीब हैं, हरिजन हैं । अगर उसको मार दिया जाए और सताया जाए तथा कोई सरकारी अधिकारी गलत रिपोर्ट दे दे और उसको मान लिया जाए । अत: मेरा अनुरोध है कि उसकी जांच कराई जाए ।

MR. CHAIRMAN: Will you kindly conclude now?

SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU: We got the report, the Government of India propose to appoint a committee under the chairmanship of the Welfare Secretary. Secretary (Power), Chief Secretary, Government of Uttar Pradesh Secretary, Department of Public Enterprises and Chairman of the NTPC as its members. It examined the inadequacies of the rehabilitation process of the oustees of the Rihand Plant along with six or seven other areas in Uttar Pradesh. The committee give its report. Each and every site is inspected by the committee. They were asked to give a correct picture. On the basis of that report, we instructed the NTPC to take up rehabilitation measures as per the norms. We hope that it will comply with the norms. We will not tolerate any inadequacies. We want that the oustees should get justice and we are not replying on the bureaucrats. ... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Mr. Chairman, Sir, I was there last month. I know what is happening there. They have just left it to the Secretary or the joint Secretary. Let a delegation of Members of Parliament go and see what is happening there. All the tribals have been displaced, not once but thrice. First you constructed a coalmine. Then you constrcted an NTPC project. Than you have constructed this NPTC thing. The same tribals have been uprooted thrice in their lifetime. They have not rehabilitated them, Sir, what he is saying is totally wrong and what the bureaucrats have told him is totally wrong. I demand that a committee of the Members of Parliament belonging to the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes, from all the parties, be constituted to go into this matter. Sir, there have really been

atrocities and that too mostly on tribals. They have been uprooted and displaced not once, but thrice, in their lifetime. They were first displaced when you constructed the Rihand dam in the '50s. They went and settled somewhere. Then, came the Singrauli coalmines scheme and unfortunately they were again uprooted in the decade of the '70s. They have again been displaced recently when you constructed—the NTPC project. I have personally seen the families who have been displaced thrice because of your so-called development work. What your committee, which went there—I also went there and I have seen that—is saying is absolutely wrong. The NTPC is really committing atrocities. They are not bothered. They have given employment to only 13 persons. I want a definite commitment from the Minister that a committee of the Parliamentarians will be constituted to go into this. Let a committee of MPs from all the parties go and see this and settle the issue of rehabilitation and resettlement... .. *(Interruptions)*. .. ..

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH: The Government should accept this.

SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU: Sir, our Government is fully committed to the welfare of the Weaker sections. There cannot be two opinions about it ..... *(Interruptions)* Please listen.

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH: What listen?

SHRI K. V. THANGKKA BALU: You must listen to what I am saying. *(Interruptions)*.

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please allow the Minister to speak... *(Interruption)*

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH: Sir, he is not replying. अजीत जोगी जी ने जो बात कही वह बिल्कुल सही बात कही । ... *(व्यवधान)*...

MR. CHAIRMAN: But, he is beginning the reply. *(Interruptions)* Please listen

SHRI DIGVIJAY SINGH: Sir, he is misleading the House. *(Interruptions)*

MR. CHAIRMAN: Please sit down and listen to him. Then only we will know whether he is misleading the House or not. *(Interruptions)* Please sit down. *(Interruptions)* Please.

SHRI K. V. THANGKA BALU: Sir, first of all, I must say categorically that we are not misleading the House. Secondly, our Government is committed to the welfare of the Scheduled Castes, the Scheduled Tribes and the backward sections of the society. I fully appreciate the sentiments expressed by hon. Members of this House and I am in full agreement with the Members on their concern about the incidents. If any attrocity takes place not only at Rihand but at other places also, we are fully committed to see that corrective measures are taken by our Government. I would also like to say that if the hon. House and the hon. Chairman considers necessary we will see to it that a Parliamentary committee is appointed to go to the site and see the realty of the situation there and report to us. We will take the corrective measures.

MR. CHAIRMAN: That's fine.

Income Ceiling for Creamy Layer for the Reservtaion to OBC

A*445. DR. SANJAYA SINGH: †

SHRI GUNDAPPA KORWAR:

Will the Minister of WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) what is the present limit of income for treamy layer for the reservation to OBC in Central Government Offices; and

(b) whether Government propose to raise the limit in view of the repeated hikes in come on account of grant of DA; if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF WELFARE (SHRI SITARAM KESRI): (a) and (b) A statement is laid on the Table of the House.

† The question was actually asked on the floor of the House by Dr. Sanjaya Sinh.